

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 AID-05 /042 W  
----- 002587

R 030625Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9172

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN, PGOV, CB

SUBJECT: NEW NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR SELECTED

1. PRIME MINISTER INFORMED ME FEB. 2 THAT PRESIDENT LON NOL HAS ACCEPTED RESIGNATION OF SOK CHHONG AS GOVERNOR OF NATIONAL BANK. IN HIS PLACE PRESIDENT HAS DESIGNATED MR. KIM NGUON TRACH, PRESENTLY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF THE MINISTER, KHY TAING LIM. THIS NEWS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC SHORTLY.

2. KIM NGUON TRACH HAS A REPUTATION AS A COMPETENT TECHNICIAN AND IS ALLEDGEDLY RELATIVELY HONEST. HE IS, HOWEVER, NO MORE THAN A TECHNICIAN AND HE REPLACES SOK CHHONG, WHO WAS A WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED PUBLIC FIGURE. SOK CHHONG IS PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTED AFTER YEARS OF HOLDING KEY POSITIONS IN GKR. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT HE TRIED TO RESIGN LAST FALL AND I WAS ABLE TO PERSUADE HIM TO STAY ON A LITTLE LONGER. THIS TIME HIS DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM PUBLIC LIFE FOR THE TIME BEING IS IRREVOCABLE. THE REPLACEMENT OF SOK CHHONG BY KIM NGUON IS JUST ONE MORE EXAMPLE OF THE WANING STRENGTH OF THE GKR AND ITS INABILITY TO ATTRACT TOP PEOPLE FOR KEY POSITIONS AS THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES WITHOUT AN EARLY END IN SIGHT.

DEAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BANKERS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PHNOM02052  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750038-0458  
**From:** PHNOM PENH  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750277/aaaacrww.tel  
**Line Count:** 60  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR SELECTED  
**TAGS:** EFIN, PGOV, CB, (KIM NGUON TRACH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006